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PATENT

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

Compositions and methods are provided for cleaning and/or rejuvenating catalysts, including catalysts of the type used in vehicle catalytic converters. The compositions of the invention comprise a hydrocarbon source and an oxygen donor, which may be one and the same compound. The composition may be combustible, and the composition may generate organic acid vapor upon combustion. The composition may also include a number of trace metals. Methods according to the invention include the steps of bringing the catalyst up to working temperature and passing the rejuvenating and/or cleaning composition or the combustion products of the rejuvenating and/or cleansing composition over the catalyst.